Response regarding frequency of invasive plant monitoring:

The Conservancy has implemented an island-wide invasive plant treatment and monitoring program since 2003. It maintains and regularly updates the status of existing and new occurrences of invasive plants by rotating watershed-based surveys as well as ad hoc information reported by the numerous trail, invasive plant, wildlife, and vegetation monitoring field crews active throughout the island during a regular growing year. The Conservancy's Trail Manager and crews are trained in identification of invasive plants of most concern to the Conservancy's invasive plant program and manually remove plants as they are encountered or report larger occurrences to the Conservancy's invasive plant program manager.

Response regarding environmental education relating to spread of invasive plants:

As part of the trail project, the Conservancy will develop and distribute to its interior permittees an educational handout which includes information and actions, equivalent to the information summarized below from the National Park Channel Islands web page (https://www.nps.gov/chis/planyourvisit/non-native-pests.htm), to avoid the introduction of new invasive species into Catalina Island. ¹

It will also develop and install at key visitor entry locations and campgrounds interpretive signage similar to the following examples:







How You Can Help

If you plan to visit the Channel Islands, you probably care a great deal about protecting them from harm. Ironically, those who enjoy visiting the islands can also be responsible for spreading non-native, invasive species. You can help prevent the introduction and spread of these non-native plants and animals, which is far more effective than costly eradication programs.

• Clean and Inspect Clothing, Gear, and Containers for Weeds and Other "Hitchhikers"

Many weed seeds readily stick to clothing and camping gear. These seeds can later fall off and germinate, establishing new weed colonies. Weeds and other non-native organisms can hitch a ride in camping equipment, food containers and baggage. Visitors should clean and inspect their footwear, clothing, and gear (especially shoe treads and Velcro) for seeds and soil before boarding boats and moving between campsites and islands. Socks and cuffs of pants should be given particular attention. Sleeping bags, sleeping pads, and tents should be cleaned and inspected for soil, invertebrates, and seeds before leaving the mainland. If you are already on the island, please use the nearby boot brushes—simply run each foot though the brush several times to remove weed seeds and other "stowaways" caught in shoe treads and laces.

While Hiking

Trails can be pathways for a lot more than just people. Weeds often spread along trails and then to adjacent uninfested areas. You can help prevent this from happening by always staying on designated trails, avoid weed-infested areas, and by not picking or transporting plants when hiking on the islands. Pack out all trash Just because a bit of trash—apple cores, orange seeds, etc.—is organic, doesn't mean it can be left behind. Please be sure to pack out all trash. While most domestic fruit and vegetable species are not invasive, some can germinate and become pests.

